

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for treating hepatitis comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of a compound that neutralizes the effect of secreted TNF alpha.

2. The method according to claim 1 wherein the hepatitis is selected from the group consisting of hepatitis A, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, hepatitis D, and hepatitis E.

3. The method according to claim 1 wherein the compound that neutralizes the effect of secreted TNF alpha is a p75:FC inhibitor.

4. The method according to claim 3 wherein the p75:FC inhibitor is etanercept.

5. The method according to claim 1 wherein the compound that neutralizes the effect of secreted TNF alpha is a humanized monoclonal antibody.

6. The method according to claim 5 wherein the compound is inflixamab.